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## NOTES FROM LOCAL BRANCHES

The following extract from correspondence may be of interest to other Local Branches:

*From a Chairman of a Local Branch:* "During this year I desire to accomplish two objects; first to give this new local branch real vitality, and second to develop in it a genuine spirit of cooperation. In order to accomplish this, it seems to me desirable that in the choosing of subjects for discussion all topics should be avoided that would create the impression that the branch exists purely for the purpose of promoting its own selfish interests. I therefore desire to avoid discussion of such questions as those of academic freedom, the economic condition of the profession, and the position and function of the faculty in university administration.

"Will you be good enough to suggest a few topics which could furnish the basis of discussion at meetings of the local branch and at the same time be subjects upon which the Council might desire opinion from local branches?"

*Reply:* "One of the most important questions which the Association has undertaken to consider is that of cultivating the intellectual interest of undergraduates, and it seemed that this is a question of precisely the type which you will be glad to take up with your local branch. Committee G, of which Professor Frank Aydelotte of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology is chairman, will make a preliminary report on this question at the meeting during the Christmas holidays, and I am sure the committee would be exceedingly glad to receive an account of any preliminary discussion of the subject which you may hold.

"You will get many suggestions for discussion of this subject from Professor Hudson's recent book (*The College and New America*) and other specific questions related to the topic will occur to you. Among them I might suggest the following:

"Do we do enough to encourage our students to read for themselves, and if not how may we do more?"

"What means could be taken to give undergraduates a better

knowledge of subjects as a whole as distinct from courses in those subjects? This connects with the first question since probably every one would agree that the most profitable outside reading for undergraduates would be books tending to link their courses together so that they may have an idea of their subject as a whole.

"Are our grading systems an adequate measure of intellectual ability and grasp as distinct from mere memory, which may be the result of cram?"

"What is the value of tutorial or preceptorial methods of instruction and of honors examinations in stimulating the intellectual interest of undergraduates?"

Officers elected for the current year have been reported, as follows:—

<i>Chairman</i>	<i>Secretary</i>
Bryn Mawr College.....T. De Laguna	C. G. Fenwick
University of California..F. P. Gay	G. R. Noyes
University of Chicago....E. J. Wilczynski	C. H. Beeson
Drake University.....L. W. Smith	O. B. Clark
University of Idaho.....H. L. Axtell	C. W. Chenoweth
State University of Iowa..H. L. Rietz	
Knox College.....W. P. Drew	J. L. Conger
University of Maine....G. D. Chase	H. M. Ellis
University of Michigan...E. C. Chase	C. B. Vibbert
Mount Holyoke College...M. Gertrude Cushing	
College of the City of N.Y..M. R. Cohen	Joseph Allen
Univ. of North Carolina..A. S. Wheeler	
Northwestern University..D. R. Curtiss	R. G. Martin
University of Nevada....Charles Haseman	
Ohio State University....F. C. Blake	
Princeton University....F. H. Dixon	G. Van Ingen
Smith College.....Frank A. Waterman	Arthur R. Jones
Trinity College (Conn.)..F. C. Babbitt	
Union College.....B. H. Ripton	G. D. Kellogg
University of Virginia....W. H. Faulkner	W. S. Rodman
Washburn College.....J. E. Hollingsworth	Sarah L. Doubt
Wellesley College.....Arthur O. Norton	Amy Kelly
Western Reserve Univ....Hippolyte Gruener	H. W. Mountcastle
West Virginia University..R. A. Armstrong	F. E. Clark
Williams College.....J. B. Pratt	